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Welcome to the Ballotpedia test for editorial department applicants! This test is divided into three sections and is designed to gauge your ability in the following areas:

1. Simple research
2. Complex research
3. Copy editing

You must edit this page to complete this test. Once you are logged in to Ballotpedia, click "Tools" in the upper right corner of the page and then click "Edit" in the menu that appears below the site header.

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Simple research

Add your answers in this section below the appropriate question. Provide citations for your answers in the proper site format.

- Who won the San Francisco mayoral and board of supervisors elections held on November 3, 2015? How many votes did each of the winners receive?

[1]

Mayor Ed Lee won re-election with 105,298 votes for 55.3 percent of the votes cast.

Aaron Peskin was elected to the Board of Supervisors' District 3 seat with 8,740 votes for 52.45 percent of the votes cast.

In linked footnote format:

- Review this study of school board elections in America's 1,000 largest school districts by student enrollment and answer the following five questions using its findings.

How many school board incumbents ran for re-election in 2015?

[2]

What percentage ran as part of a candidate slate?

[3]

In what state did no incumbents win re-election?

[4]

What percentage of school board incumbents who ran for re-election retained their seats in 2014?

[5]

What about in 2015?

[6]

Complex research

Add your answer in this section below the question. Provide citations for your answer in the proper site format.

- <ref>Jeffco Public Schools in Colorado held one of the most contentious and complicated school board elections in the United States in 2015.</ref>https://ballotpedia.org/Jeffco_Public_Schools_elections_(2015) <ref> A general election was held at the same time as a recall election, which resulted in all five seats on the board being up for grabs. Briefly summarize the top issues and key individuals/organizations in the election. Provide some background of what took place prior to and during the election. Who won? Did the majority faction on the school board change as a result of the election, or did it stay in power?

In a race that drew national attention, <ref>Jeffco Public Schools in Colorado held one of the most contentious and complicated school board elections in the United States in 2015,</ref>https://ballotpedia.org/Jeffco_Public_Schools_elections_(2015) <ref> as </ref>three conservative school board members were recalled and two incumbents decided against seeking re-election.https://gazette.com/government/conservative-school-board-members-ousted-in-colorado-recalls/article_2ca0cc1d-0a31-5a97-a874-5640cdcae90c.html <ref>

<ref>Jefferson County voters in Colorado's second-largest school district recalled Ken Witt, Julie Williams, and John Newkirk, a trio elected in 2013 on promises to reform teacher pay and boost charter schools.</ref>https://gazette.com/government/conservative-school-board-members-ousted-in-colorado-recalls/article_2ca0cc1d-0a31-5a97-a874-5640cdcae90c.html <ref>

In addition, <ref>District 3 incumbent Jill Fellman and District 4 incumbent Lesley Dahlkemper declined seeking re-election and were replaced on the board by Ali Lasell and Amanda Stevens, respectively.</ref>https://ballotpedia.org/Jeffco_Public_Schools_elections_(2015) <ref> That means five new trustees and signaled a change in priorities at the top.

Replacing <ref>the three ousted electeds to serve the remainder of their four-year terms were candidates backed by a constituency of well-connected parents, high-profile county Democrats and the teachers union.</ref>https://www.chalkbeat.org/posts/co/2015/11/03/jefferson-county-recall-

election-2015/ <ref>

<ref>Lasell and Stevens supported the recall and ran as part of "The Clean Slate" that sought to recall Witt, Williams, and Newkirk. [https://ballotpedia.org/Jeffco_Public_Schools_elections_\(2015\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Jeffco_Public_Schools_elections_(2015)) <ref>

<ref>The recall effort known as a 'proxy war' cost about \$1 million. https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/in-denver-suburb-a-school-board-race-morphs-into-a-1-million-proxy-war/2015/11/01/c553e882-7f47-11e5-beba-927fd8634498_story.html <ref>

Copy editing

Edit the paragraphs below to correct all errors. Proofread the text as if the current date were January 1, 2016. In addition to simple typos, look for issues of style, bias, and fact.

In 2010, Pennsylvania's Office of Attorney General launched a sting operation to catch state legislators accepting cash payments from a fake lobbyist. Five lawmakers in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives were caught allegedly accepting money illegally, but new Attorney General Kathleen Kane in 2013 dropped the cases altogether.

<ref>Kane stopped the investigation, which began before took office, stating that race played a role in the investigation, as all five lawmakers identified are African-American. <https://fox43.com/2015/03/09/more-state-representatives-charged-with-bribery/> <ref>

However, a year later, the cases were brought up and sent to the district attorney for further consideration. Democratic representatives Louise Williams Bishop, Vanessa Lowery Brown, Michelle Brownlee, Harold James, and Ron Waters faced charges of bribery and conflict of interest.

Bishop initially chose to fight the charges but last month agreed to resign her House seat and <ref>pay \$6,000 in fines for failing to report \$1,500 in cash gifts on annual financial disclosure forms.https://www.pennlive.com/politics/2016/11/former_state_rep_louise_willia.html <ref>

Brown, who has represented a district in West Philadelphia since 2008, opted to fight the charges.

Brownlee last June <ref>pleaded guilty to accepting \$2,000 in cash for favors <https://www.phillyvoice.com/pa-house-member-resigns-pleads-guilty-cash-favors/> <ref> and resigned from her seat.

James served in the House for nearly 20 years until 2008, and returned to the legislature in 2012 -- when he accepted money illegally -- to serve the final six months of an unexpired terms of a lawmaker who had resigned. <ref>He last June pleaded guilty to one count of conflict of interest. https://www.inquirer.com/philly/news/politics/20150602_Two_more_Dems_plead_guilty_in_sting_case.html <ref>

Waters last June 1 pleaded guilty to accepting \$8,750 in cash from a lobbyist in exchange for promises of official actions and resigned his House seat.<ref>https://www.pennlive.com/midstate/2015/06/state_rep_ron_waters_pleads_to.html <ref>

Pleas by <ref>Bishop https://www.pennlive.com/politics/2016/11/former_state_rep_louise_willia.html </ref>, <ref>Brownlee <https://www.phillyvoice.com/pa-house-member-resigns-pleads-guilty-cash-favors/> </ref>, and <ref>James and Waters https://www.phillytrib.com/news/waters-james-plead-guilty-to-bribery-lowery-brown-picks-trial/article_8d02addc-3e6f-575f-843a-ca9d7665127f.html </ref> allowed them to keep their pensions and avoid prison time.

1. last updated November, 19, 2015
2. A total of 969 incumbents ran for re-election to 1,377 school board seats.
https://ballotpedia.org/School_board_incumbency_analysis:_2015_in_brief
3. Among incumbents, 3.10 percent ran as part of a candidate slate, https://ballotpedia.org/School_board_incumbency_analysis:_2015_in_brief
4. Nebraska was the only state in which no incumbents won re-election,
https://ballotpedia.org/School_board_incumbency_analysis:_2015_in_brief
5. In 2014, 81.31 percent of incumbents won another term, https://ballotpedia.org/School_board_incumbency_analysis:_2015_in_brief
6. In 2015, 82.66 percent were elected to additional terms, https://ballotpedia.org/School_board_incumbency_analysis:_2015_in_brief

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